In a strict lexical analysis of the Greek word **χάλαζα** (*chalaza*), its cognates, and its derivatives, there is no evidence in Ancient, Classical, or Koine Greek literature where the term is used to mean "asteroid" or "comet."

The word functions consistently across these eras as a meteorological term. Here is the breakdown of its lexical usage:

## 1. Primary Lexical Definition

In the standard lexicons for Greek (such as Liddell-Scott-Jones for Classical and BDAG for Koine/New Testament), **χάλαζα** is defined exclusively as **"hail"** or **"hailstone."**

- **Etymology:** It is derived from the Proto-Indo-European root **ghal-ad-* (meaning "hail").
- **Physical Properties:** In Greek thought, hail was understood as frozen rain or water. Aristotle, in his *Meteorologica*, provides a detailed scientific discussion of *chalaza*, categorizing it strictly as a phenomenon of the lower atmosphere (the "sublunary" sphere), distinct from celestial bodies.

## 2. Classical and Koine Usage

In both secular and biblical Greek, the word is used to describe a specific weather event:

- **Classical (e.g., Pindar, Herodotus, Xenophon):** Used to describe literal storms that damage crops or hinder armies.
- **Septuagint (LXX):** The Greek translation of the Old Testament uses *chalaza* to translate the Hebrew *barad* (e.g., the seventh plague of Egypt in Exodus 9:23).
- **Koine/New Testament:** In Revelation 16:21, the text specifies the weight of the *chalaza* (a talent), but the noun itself remains the standard word for hail.

## 3. Contrast with Astronomical Terminology

Ancient and Koine Greek had specific, distinct vocabularies for celestial bodies. If an author intended to describe an asteroid or comet, they used different terms:

- **Comet:** The term was **κομήτης** (*komētēs*), literally "long-haired star."
- **Star/Celestial Body:** The general term was **ἀστήρ** (*astēr*).
- **Falling/Shooting Star:** These were often described as *asteres* that "fall" (*piptō*), as seen in Revelation 8:10.

## 4. Semantic Range and Derivatives

The derivatives and cognates of *χάλαζα* maintain this meteorological focus:

- **χαλαζόω (chalazoō):** To hail or to be struck with hail.
- **χαλαζώδης (chalazōdēs):** Hail-like or full of hail.
- **Medical usage:** In Galen and other medical texts, *chalaza* was used metaphorically to describe a small, hard "hailstone-like" lump or cyst (specifically on the eyelid, a condition

still known today as a *chalazion*).

## Conclusion of Lexical Analysis

There is **no lexical precedent** in the relevant time periods for *χάλαζα* to signify an object originating from space, such as an asteroid or comet. Such an association is a modern interpretive or "eisgetical" move (reading a modern concept into an ancient word) rather than a conclusion supported by the philological data of the Greek language. In the context of Revelation 16:21, the word denotes a solid, falling atmospheric precipitate.